

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 OMB-01 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00

MC-02 ACDA-19 AF-10 DRC-01 /168 W

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R 021415Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8770

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 0063

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PK

SUBJ: BHUTTO CALLS FOR DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE TIES, ARMS CUTS

SUMMARY: IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW PUBLISHED HERE, PAKISTAN PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO REITERATED HIS DESIRE THAT INDIA AND PAKISTAN MOVE TO RENEW DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE RELATIONS. HE AGAIN CALLED FOR ARMS REDUCTION TALKS. NONETHELESS, HE CITED THE "REACTIVATED" PAKHTUNISTAN PROBLEM AND THE "EXCITABLE" PERSIAN GULF AS JUSTIFYING PAKISTAN'S INTEREST IN US ARMS. END SUMMARY.

1.*IN A DECEMBER 28 INTERVIEW WITH "HINDUSTAN TIMES" PAKISTAN ANALYST SATISH UMAR, PUBLISHED HERE JANUARY 2, BHUTTO GENERALLY REITERATED HIS PREVIOUS POSITIONS. THE TONE WAS SET BY HIS EMPHATIC OBSERVATION THAT PAKISTAN WAS PART OF SOUTH ASIA AND THAT THE FUTURE WORLD ROLE OF THIS AREA "WILL BE DETERMINED...BY THE EQUILIBRIUM WE ARE ABLE TO ESTABLISH BETWEEN OURSELVES. THIS INCLUDES, UNCLASSIFIED

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OF COURSE, BANGLADESH..."

2. BHUTTO REVIEWED PROGRESS *INCE THE SIMLA AND DELHI AGREEMENTS, ADDING "WE ANXIOUSLY AWAIT FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN THE PROCESS OF NORMALIZATION." KUMAR URGED EARLY RESTORATION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND CULTURAL LINKS, BUT FOR BHUTTO "THE FIRST THING THAT HEPPENS BETWEEN STATES IS THAT THEY TAKE DIPLOMATIC ACTION"--I.E., RECOGNITION.

HE ARGUED THAT RENEWED DIPLOMATIC TIES WOULD REDUCE THE CHANCES THAT INDIAN ADVENTURIST "CHARLATANS" COULD FIND SUPPORT FOR "SUBVERSIVE" ACTIVITIES IN PAKISTAN. (IN HER DECEMBER 31 PRESS CONFERENCE MRS. GANDHI INDICATED A PREFERENCE FOR RESTORING COMMUNICATIONS AND TRADE RELATIONS BEFORE REOPENING EMBASSIES.) ONCE COMMUNICATIONS WERE RESTORED, BHUTTO ENDORSED THE REOPENING OF TRADE ROUTES, CALLING SUCH A STEP "BENEFICIAL TO ALL".

3. ASKED ABOUT HIS ARMS REDUCTION TALKS PROPOSAL, BHUTTO DESCRIBED DEFENSE EXPENDITURES AS "COLOSSAL" AND "BACKBREAKING" FOR INDIA AND PAKISTAN, AND ARGUED THAT SINCE BOTH GOVERNMENTS WERE "COMMITTED TO SOCIAL JUSTICE", THEIR EXPERTS SHOULD MEET TO WORK OUT A FORMULA THAT WOULD LEAVE BOTH SIDES FEELING SECURE. BHUTTO BELITTLED POTENTIAL THREATS TO INDIA--PAKISTAN'S INTEREST IN US ARMS "DOESN'T MEAN WE WANT TO FIGHT INDIA," WHICH HE SAW "MOVING INTO A NEW RELATIONSHIP" WITH THE PRC. PAKISTAN, HOWEVER, FACLSSEVERAL SECURITY PROBLEMS. BHUTTO TICKED OFF A SERIES OF THEM INCLUDING THAT "REACTIVATED IN THE NORTH BY AFGHANISTAN" AND AN "EXCITABLE" PERSIAN GULF. HE FAILED TO SEE WHY INDIA OBJECTED TO US ARMS SHIPMENTS TO PAKISTAN, WHICH WERE NOT FORTHCOMING ANYWAY, WHEN "WE DON'T RAISE A HOWL" ABOUT USSR ARMS SALES TO INDIA.

4. BHUTTO RESPONDED AT LENGTH TO QUESTIONS ON DOMESTIC DIFFICULTIES HAVING INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS. HE ARGUED THAT THE GOP COULD NOT PERMIT "PARALLEL GOVERNMENTS" IN TRIBAL AREAS OF BALUCHISTAN AND THE FRONTIER, "ONE OF THE MALIKS AND SARDARS AND THE OTHER OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT." THAT WAS WHY THE GOP HAD "TAKEN OUR WRIT TO THE FORWARD POSITIONS," ABOUT WHICH AFGHANISTAN WAS "MAKING ALOT OF NOISE." BHUTTO REGRETTEED THE WAY HIS TRIP TO AZAD KASHMIR HAD BEEN REPORTED IN INDIA. "MY BASIC MESSAGE WAS THAT WAR HAS NOT SERVED ANY PURPOSE, AND WE MUST SOLVE THIS PROBLEM BY PEACEFUL MEANS." THE SAME TIME, BHUTTO SAID HE WAS NOT HOPEFUL OF A KASHMIR SETTLEMENT IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS AND DOUBTED IT WOULD BE WISE FOR INDIA

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AND PAKISTAN TO GO RIGHT TO THE HEART OF TRYING TO SETTLE THIS ISSUE IMMEDIATELY.

5. TEXT OF INTERVIEW BEING AIRPOUCHED TO ADDRESSEES.MOYNIHAN

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